

■ An Overview of ARDC: Strategy, Grantmaking, and 44Net IP Addresses

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Agenda

- Introduction / Background
- ARDC Vision & Strategy
- Grantmaking Updates
- 44Net Updates
- Q&A



Illini Solar Car

What is ARDC?



- California-based 501(c)(3) non-profit private foundation
- Programs:
 - Grantmaking
 - 44Net

Origins

[RFC 790](#)

September 1981
Assigned Numbers

Network Numbers

036.rrr.rrr.rrr	SU-NET	Stanford University Ethernet	[MRC]
037.rrr.rrr.rrr	DECNET	Digital Equipment Network	[DRL]
038.rrr.rrr.rrr	DECNET-TEST	Test Digital Equipment Net	[DRL]
039.rrr.rrr.rrr	SRINET	SRI Local Network	[GE0F]
040.rrr.rrr.rrr	CISLNET	CISL Multics Network	[CH2]
041.rrr.rrr.rrr	BBN-LN-TEST	BBN Local Network Testbed	[KTP]
042.rrr.rrr.rrr	SINET	LLL-S1-NET	[EAK]
043.rrr.rrr.rrr	INTELPOST	COMSAT INTELPOST	[DLM1]
044.rrr.rrr.rrr	AMPRNET	Amature Radio Experiment Net	[HM]
044.rrr.rrr.rrr-126.rrr.rrr.rrr		Unassigned	[JBP]
127.rrr.rrr.rrr		Reserved	[JBP]



AMATEUR RADIO DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

A Little History

1981	Hank Magnuski KA6M and 44Net / AMPRNet
2011	Formation of ARDC to be the trustee of the 44Net address space by Brian Kantor WB6CYT
2019	Sale of IPv4 addresses & creation of endowment to fund ARDC operations and grants
2019	Sudden passing of WB6CYT
2020	Building a staff to manage operations including grants and technology

Mission

To support, promote, and enhance digital communication and broader communication science and technology, to promote Amateur Radio, scientific research, experimentation, education, development, open access, and innovation in information and communication technology.

Vision & Strategy

**Promote
Learning**

**Promote
Experimenting**

**Promote
Doing**



AMATEUR RADIO DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

Vision Statement

A thriving global community of learners, experimenters, and contributors advancing freedom with open source communication and information technology.

<https://www.ardc.net/about/vision/>

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A thriving global community of learners, experimenters, and contributors advancing freedom with open source communication and information technology.

1. Promote Learning

Goal: more people learning about AR and DC

- Any age
- Any competency level
- Inside & outside traditional classrooms

#LifelongLearning!



Youngsters on the Air (YOTA)

2. Promote Experimenting

Goal: more people exploring, innovating, and advancing tech

- Hacking & research
- Newbie exploration: specific ham bands or non-amateur wireless
- Technology widgets & electronic kit building
- From tinkering to deep dives



3. Promote Doing

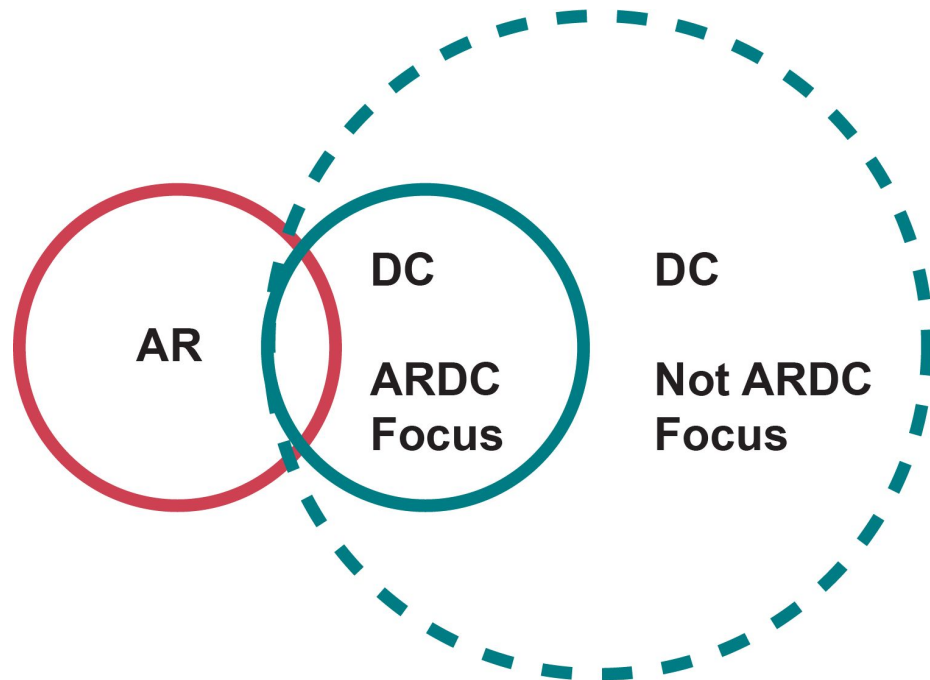
Goal: more people using new tech productively within AR and DC

- Real world use & impact
- Engagement with users (incl. healthy feedback loop)
- Spectrum – use it or lose it! Including:
 - AR, lightly licensed, unlicensed, & non-commercial spectrum
 - Wireline



WX5FWD SKYWARN

Focus Area in DC



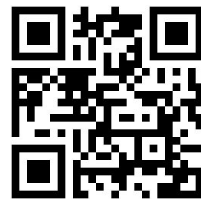
- Hams + hackers
- Unlicensed spectrum
- 44Net education & experimentation

We also care about...

- ✓ No gatekeeper technologies
- ✓ Broad impact (open, shareable, leverageable)
vs. serving a single group
- ✓ Not likely to be funded by other sources
- ✓ Not just wireless

Priority Areas for Funding

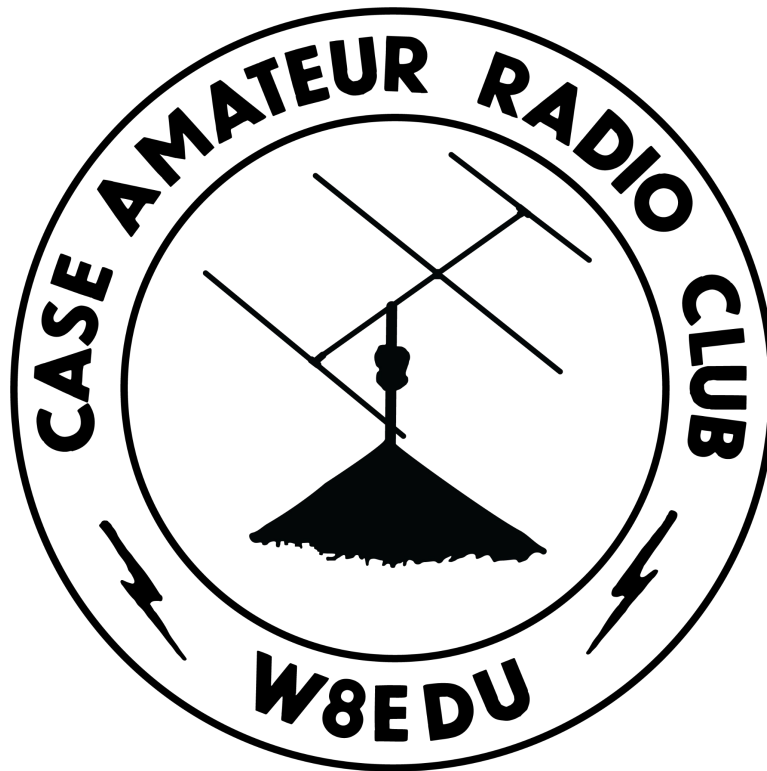
- **R&D:**
 - Low-cost, open solutions
- **Space-Based Comms:**
 - New or enhanced sat comms tech
- **Open Source Education:**
 - Filling gaps in AR & DC resources



Updates on Grantmaking



AMATEUR RADIO DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS



*Student organization dedicated to amateur radio education, research,
and community engagement*



FreeDV



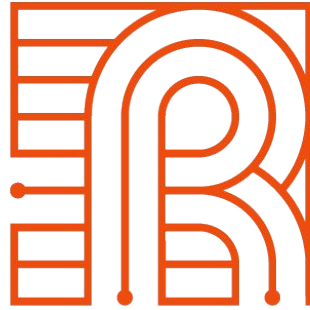
Digital Voice

Free, open-source, high quality digital HF voice mode unencumbered by patents



AMATEUR RADIO DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS





R H I Z O M A T I C A

US non-profit (est. 2010) supporting community infrastructure worldwide



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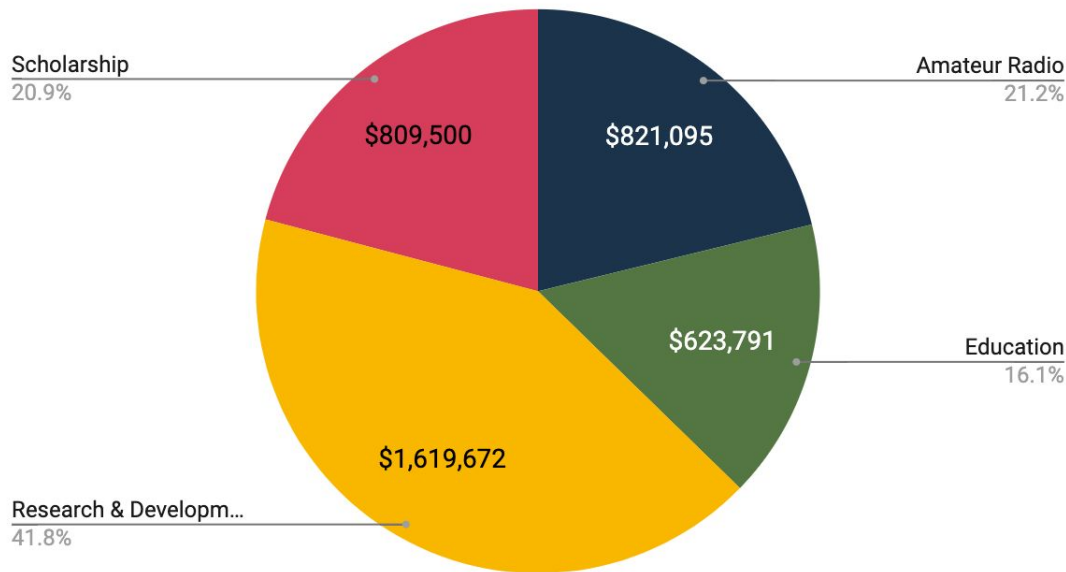


Full-stack digital HF system that supports voice and data communication



2024 Grants Update

2024 Grants by Category - Dollars



Number of grants made in 2024:

59 Grants

Dollars approved in 2024:

\$3.8 Million*

Number of people impacted:

~15,103 People

**Final totals will be provided in 2024 audited financials*

Grants Evaluation Team Findings



San Francisco Wireless Emergency Mesh

- **84% of projects were successful**
- 9% had unknown outcomes
- 6% were less successful
- Full report:
<https://www.ardc.net/wp-content/uploads/2025-GET-Report-Public-version.pdf>



Looking to apply in 2026?

Check out the application deadlines

- February 1
- April 1
- July 1
- September 1
 - general & scholarship programs

APPLY

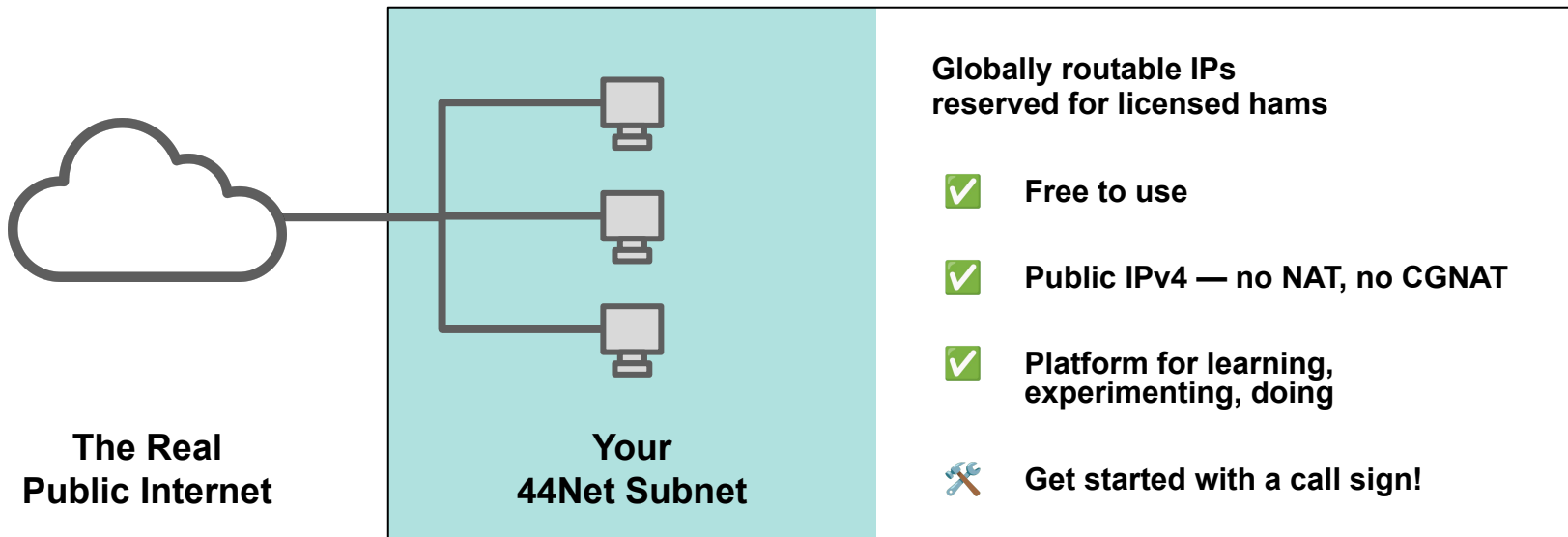
Information: ardc.net/apply/

Apply: grants.ardc.net



Technology & 44Net

44Net: Real IPv4 for Real Hams



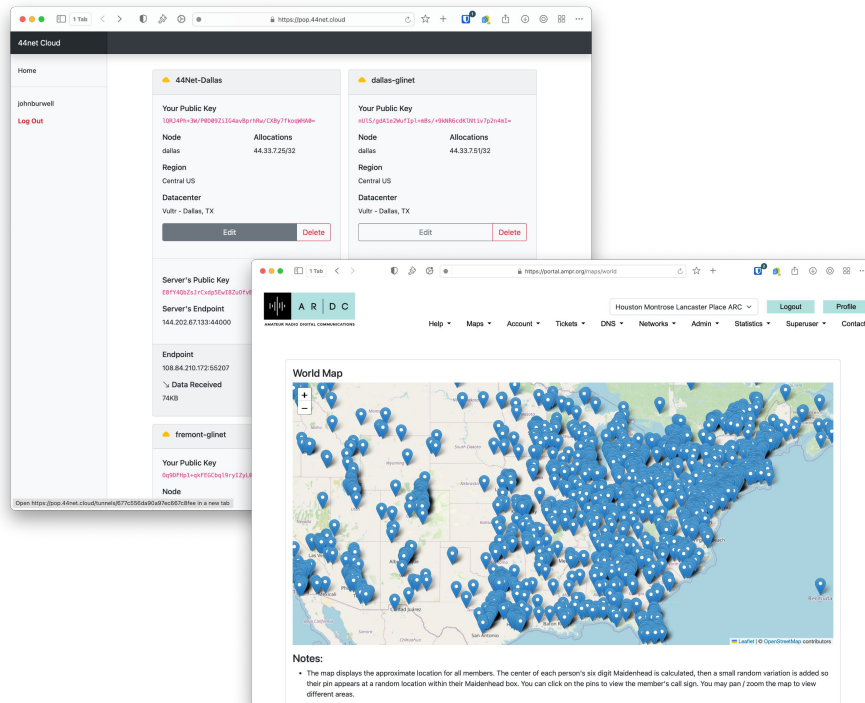
What's New at 44Net

New Portal: portal.ampr.org

- Self-service
- Orgs and club support
- Call sign DNS subdomains

Volunteer Engagement:

- RCs and Ticket Handlers supporting users
- TAC PoP Team launching VPN
- TAC Docs Team refreshing wiki.ampr.org
- UCSD gateway upgrade (Tim Požar, et al.)



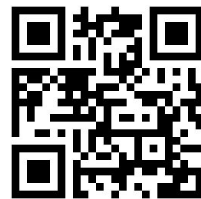
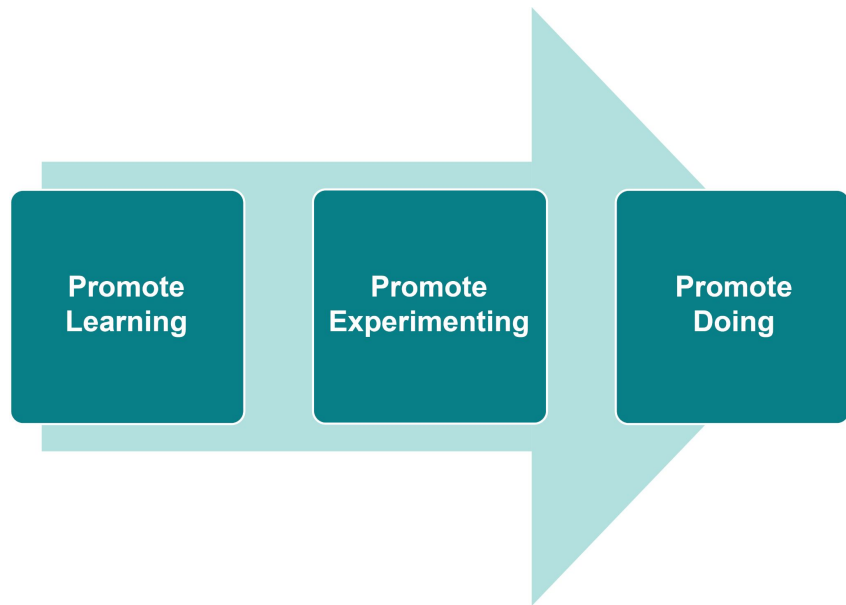
Join in!

Experiment with 44Net!

- Get IPv4 addresses at portal.ampr.org
- Portal source code is open
 - john@ardc.net

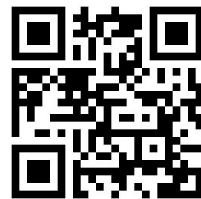
Learn and **Do** by getting involved with projects from our grantees

Apply for a grant at grants.ardc.net



2026 Volunteer Recruitment

- Deadline: **Friday, October 31, 2025**
- To apply:
 - QR Code includes our application form
 - Email to hr@ardc.net
- More information: <https://www.ardc.net/join-ardcs-2026-volunteer-team/>



Find out more...

<https://www.ardc.net/>

contact@ardc.net

<https://www.facebook.com/ardc.73/>

https://x.com/ARDC_73

www.rsgb.org

